

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL
NUMBER EL611001175US
DATE OF DEPOSIT August 6, 2001

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Valerie Michelle Arem

Serial No.: Unknown

Filed: Filed Herewith

For: INVISIBLE POCKET

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Atty. Dkt. No.: VMIC:002RE

Reissue Application for Patent No. 6,131,205

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Commissioner:

Please amend this application as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. A pocket for suspending an embellishment on a garment comprising:
a substantially unstitched top edge;
a substantially unstitched bottom edge;
a [substantially unstitched] left edge; and
a right edge;
wherein said pocket comprises a sheer fabric and wherein said left edge and said right edge are stitched to a layer of sheer fabric so that said pocket forms an opening to receive the item to be suspended.
13. A garment having one or more invisible pockets for suspending an embellishment, said garment comprising:

at least one layer of sheer fabric;
at least one invisible pocket attached to a layer of said sheer fabric; and
at least one embellishment suspended in said pocket;
wherein said pocket comprises
a substantially [unstitched] unstitched top edge;
a substantially [unstitched] unstitched bottom edge;
a left edge; and
a right edge;
wherein said left edge and said right edge are stitched to said sheer fabric so that said
pocket forms an opening to receive the embellishment to be suspended.

Please add the following claims:

--19. A pocket for suspending an embellishment on a garment, said pocket consisting of an
outside panel comprising:

a substantially unstitched top edge;

a bottom edge;

a left edge; and

a right edge;

wherein said pocket comprises a sheer fabric and wherein said left edge and said right edge are
stitched to a back panel so that said outside panel forms an opening to receive the item to be
suspended, and wherein said bottom edge may be unstitched, substantially unstitched, partially
stitched or totally stitched.

20. The pocket of claim 19, wherein said bottom edge is substantially unstitched.

21. The pocket of claim 19, wherein said bottom edge is partially stitched.

22. The pocket of claim 19, wherein said bottom edge is totally stitched.

23. The pocket of claim 19, wherein the outside panel and the back panel are of the same material.

24. The pocket of claim 19, wherein the outside panel and the back panel are of different material.

25. The pocket of claim 19, wherein the pocket is triangular.

26. The pocket of claim 19, wherein the pocket is trapezoidal.

27. A garment having one or more sheer pockets for suspending an embellishment, said garment comprising:

at least one layer of fabric;

at least one sheer pocket attached to a layer of said fabric; and

at least one embellishment suspended in said pocket;

wherein said pocket consists of an outside panel comprising:

a substantially unstitched top edge;

a bottom edge;

a left edge; and

a right edge;

wherein said left edge and said right edge are stitched to said fabric so that said outside panel forms an opening to receive the embellishment to be suspended, and wherein said bottom edge may be unstitched, substantially unstitched, partially stitched or totally stitched.

28. The garment of claim 27, wherein said embellishment may be selected from the group consisting of a flower, a leaf, a photo, a picture, a shell, a ribbon, a toy, and petals.

29. The garment of claim 28, wherein said embellishment is a photo or a picture.

30. The garment of claim 25, wherein said outside panel and said fabric are of different materials.

31. The garment of claim 27, wherein said outside panel and said fabric are of different materials.--

In the Specification

Please amend the paragraph at column 2, line 1, as follows:

In one aspect, the present invention provides a pocket for suspending an embellishment on a garment[comprising]. The pocket of the invention generally has a top edge, a bottom edge, a left edge and a right edge. Typically, only the left edge and right edge are stitched to the garment so that the pocket forms an opening to receive the item to be suspended. However, in certain embodiments, the lower edge may be partially or totally stitched to the garment as well, depending upon the item to be suspended on the garment. In this sense, the term “pocket” refers to the piece of fabric depicted in FIG.1 that is stitched to a larger piece of fabric to form the opening. This piece is also referred to herein as the “outside panel.”

Please amend the paragraph at column 2, line 1, as follows:

The present invention also provides a garment having one or more invisible pockets as described above for suspending an embellishment. Typically, a garment will have multiple pockets stitched to the same layer of sheer fabric in order to suspend a number of items, such as flowers, over the surface of the garment. However, it is within the scope of the present invention to have pockets stitched to different layers of sheer fabric and/or to have pockets of different sizes stitched to the same garment. These variations in the design of the garment will be well within the ability and the knowledge of one skilled in the art. While it is contemplated that virtually anything may be used as an embellishment on a garment of the invention, some preferred items for use in conjunction with the present invention may include flowers, leaves, photos, shells, ribbons, toys, and petals. Most preferably, the embellishment is a flower, such as a rose or a pansy.

REMARKS

The active claims in this case are claims 1-18, as issued in U.S. Patent No. 6,103,205, granted on October 17, 2000, and claims 19-31 added herein. The amendments to the specification and claims incorporate the Certificate of Correction in this case. The amendments to the specification and claim 1 correct grammatical or typographical errors. Support for the amendment to claim 13 and for the added claims can be found in the specification at least at col. 2, lines 4-9; col. 3, lines 11-32; col. 3, lines 59-62; col. 4, lines 5-7; and col. 4, lines 30-34. No new material is being added to the application. The pending claims are attached hereto as Appendix A.

It is believed that no additional fee is due; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Deposit Account No.: 50-1212/10104952/VMIC:002RE.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: August 6, 2001

APPENDIX A
PENDING CLAIMS

1. A pocket for suspending an embellishment on a garment comprising:
a substantially unstitched top edge;
a substantially unstitched bottom edge;
a left edge; and
a right edge;
wherein said pocket comprises a sheer fabric and wherein said left edge and said right edge are stitched to a layer of sheer fabric so that said pocket forms an opening to receive the item to be suspended.
2. The pocket of claim 1, wherein said pocket is trapezoidal.
3. The pocket of claim 2, wherein said top edge and said bottom edge are slightly curved.
4. The pocket of claim 2, wherein said bottom edge is shorter than said top edge.
5. The pocket of claim 4, wherein said top edge may be from about 3 inches to about 15 inches in length.
6. The pocket of claim 5, wherein said bottom edge may be from about 1 inch to about 14 inches in length.
7. The pocket of claim 5, wherein said bottom edge is at least about 1 inch shorter in length than the top edge.
8. The pocket of claim 6, wherein the top edge is about 6 inches in length and the bottom edge is about 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length.

9. The pocket of claim 8, wherein the left edge is about 5 ½ inches in length and the right edge is about 5 ½ inches in length.
10. The pocket of claim 1, wherein said sheer fabric may be tulle, chiffon, crepe or organza.
11. The pocket of claim 10, wherein said pocket is made of tulle.
12. The pocket of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of said bottom edge is stitched to the garment.
13. A garment having one or more invisible pockets for suspending an embellishment, said garment comprising:
 - at least one layer of sheer fabric;
 - at least one invisible pocket attached to a layer of said sheer fabric; and
 - at least one embellishment suspended in said pocket;wherein said pocket comprises
 - a substantially unstitched top edge;
 - a substantially unstitched bottom edge;
 - a left edge; and
 - a right edge;wherein said left edge and said right edge are stitched to said sheer fabric so that said pocket forms an opening to receive the embellishment to be suspended.
14. The garment of claim 13, further comprising at least one layer of sheer fabric covering the layer of sheer fabric to which the pocket is attached.
15. The garment of claim 13, wherein said embellishment may be selected from the group consisting of a flower, a leaf, a photo, a shell, a ribbon, a toy, and petals.
16. The garment of claim 15, wherein said embellishment is a flower.

17. The garment of claim 13, comprising more than one invisible pocket attached to the same layer of sheer fabric.

18. The garment of claim 13, comprising two or more layers of sheer fabric having at least one invisible pocket attached thereto.

19. A pocket for suspending an embellishment on a garment, said pocket consisting of an outside panel comprising:

a substantially unstitched top edge;

a bottom edge;

a left edge; and

a right edge;

wherein said pocket comprises a sheer fabric and wherein said left edge and said right edge are stitched to a back panel so that said outside panel forms an opening to receive the item to be suspended, and wherein said bottom edge may be unstitched, substantially unstitched, partially stitched or totally stitched.

20. The pocket of claim 19, wherein said bottom edge is substantially unstitched.

21. The pocket of claim 19, wherein said bottom edge is partially stitched.

22. The pocket of claim 19, wherein said bottom edge is totally stitched.

23. The pocket of claim 19, wherein the outside panel and the back panel are of the same material.

24. The pocket of claim 19, wherein the outside panel and the back panel are of different material.

25. The pocket of claim 19, wherein the pocket is triangular.

26. The pocket of claim 19, wherein the pocket is trapezoidal.

27. A garment having one or more sheer pockets for suspending an embellishment, said garment comprising:

at least one layer of fabric;

at least one sheer pocket attached to a layer of said fabric; and

at least one embellishment suspended in said pocket;

wherein said pocket consists of an outside panel comprising:

a substantially unstitched top edge;

a bottom edge;

a left edge; and

a right edge;

wherein said left edge and said right edge are stitched to said fabric so that said outside panel forms an opening to receive the embellishment to be suspended, and wherein said bottom edge may be unstitched, substantially unstitched, partially stitched or totally stitched.

28. The garment of claim 27, wherein said embellishment may be selected from the group consisting of a flower, a leaf, a photo, a picture, a shell, a ribbon, a toy, and petals.

29. The garment of claim 28, wherein said embellishment is a photo or a picture.

30. The garment of claim 25, wherein said outside panel and said fabric are of different materials.

31. The garment of claim 27, wherein said outside panel and said fabric are of different materials.

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STATEMENT UNDER 1.173(c)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Commissioner:

The active claims in this case are claims 1-18, as issued in U.S. Patent No. 6,131,205, granted on October 17, 2000. Claims 19-31 are added in the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently herewith.

Support for the amendments can be found in the Specification and claims as originally filed. More specifically, support for the amendments is as follows:

Added Claims 19-31

Patentee added claims 19-31 in the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently herewith due to the Patentee claiming more or less than the Patentee had the right to claim in the patent. The error complained of is an inadvertent oversight on the part of Applicant's representative.

Support for the claims can be found in the specification. For example, support for claims 19-22 may be found at column 2, lines 1-9; and support for claims 23-24 may be found at column 3, lines 9-16. Support for claims 25-26 may be found at column 4, lines 5-8. Support for claims 27-29 may be found at column 3, lines 19-27 and 59-65. Support for claims 30-31 may be found at column 3, lines 9-16.

Conclusion

It is believed that no fee is due; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Deposit Account No.: 50-1212/VMIC:002RE/10104952.

Respectfully submitted,



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